

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 182701 TOSEC 190078

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT SEOUL 5650 ACTION SECSTATE INFO TOKYO
22 JUL 76

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5650

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS STATEMENT TO BE MADE
FOLLOWING SECRETARY'S JULY 22 SPEECH

REF: (A) STATE 178407, (B) TOKYO 10911, (C) TOKYO 10970

1. MOFA HAS PASSED US FOLLOWING ADVANCED TEXT OF STATEMENT
BY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PAK TONG-CHIN ON PROPOSAL
REGARDING KOREAN SITUATION TO BE INCLUDED IN SECRETARY'S
JULY 22 SPEECH IN SEATTLE. STATEMENT WILL BE GIVEN TO
ROK PRESS 10:00 A.M. JULY 23, 1976.

2. BEGIN QUOTE. STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS ON THE PROPOSAL MADE BY SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER
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OF THE UNITED STATES REGARDING THE KOREAN SITUATION:

SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER OF THE UNITED STATES, IN HIS ADDRESS ON 22 JULY, 1976 BEFORE THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL IN SEATTLE, HAS MADE PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO KOREA.

WHILE REEMPHASIZING THE UNITED STATES COMMITMENT TO THE SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS PROPOSED TO CONVENE A CONFERENCE AIMED AT NEGOTIATING THE SETTLEMENT OF OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA AMONG THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED DURING THE FORTHCOMING SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NEW YORK OR SOME OTHER MUTUALLY AGREEABLE PLACE. HE FURTHER INDICATED THAT THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO BEGIN IMMEDIATE DISCUSSIONS TO ARRANGE SUCH CONFERENCE.

IN ORDER TO ALLEVIATE CURRENT TENSION ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND EXPEDITE THE PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF KOREA, THIS PROPOSAL, WE BELIEVE, SHOULD BE GIVEN THE MOST SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES HELD CONSULTATION REGARDING THE PROPOSAL.

THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS DELIBERATED THE KOREAN QUESTION FOR ALMOST THREE DECADES AND ADOPTED NUMEROUS RESOLUTIONS THEREON. YET NO FUNDAMENTAL SOLUTION OF THE KOREAN QUESTION HAS BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT. OUR LONG EXPERIENCE SHOWS THAT NO SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS CAN BE EXPECTED TOWARDS THE SETTLEMENT OF THE KOREAN PROBLEM WITHOUT THE DIRECT TALK AND THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH OF KOREA.

WE ARE CONVINCED THAT UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES THE UNCONDITIONAL RESUMPTION OF THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE AND THE CONVENING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED ARE THE MOST REALISTIC AND RATIONAL APPROACH TOWARDS THE SETTLEMENT OF OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS ON KOREA. IT IS, THEREFORE, HOPEFUL THAT THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND NORTH KOREA WILL GIVE POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSAL MADE BY THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY

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OF STATE SO THAT THE CONFERENCE OF THE FOUR PARTIES CONCERNED COULD BE HELD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

BY TAKING SUCH A CONSTRUCTIVE STEP, WE BELIEVE, WE CAN NOT ONLY REDUCE TENSION ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA WHICH IS A PREREQUISITE TO THE PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF KOREA BUT ALSO RESTORE MUTUAL TRUST BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH OF KOREA AS SET FORTH AS ONE OF THE COMMON

OBJECTIVES IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF JULY 4, 1972.
MOREOVER, SUCH A CONCILIATORY APPROACH WILL HELP PUT AN
END TO THE STERILE AND UNPRODUCTIVE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN
THE TWO OPPOSING PARTIES AT THE INTERNATIONAL FORA.
END QUOTE.
SNEIDER UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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